

elaborately decorated without and within, with Convention colors, to which were added, in the inside delicate shades of green and pink, with many flowers of varying shades. In the center of the vast building was a large auditorium with a seating capacity of about twelve thousand. Encircling this was a wide hall, beyond which, the space inside the walls of the building was divided off into Committee rooms, press head quarters, State booths, a rest room, etc. Everything was beautifully arranged with a view to beauty and convenience. Our Reception Committee Aide, who had met us at Sacramento, and made our arrival so pleasant, now led us to the Indiana booth, where a committee assigned us a lodging place, and we were soon registered as King's Children of Christian Endeavor.

Not at all tired from the long ride, yet we were dusty and travel stained, and we wanted some fresh, clean clothes, but our baggage was not available. Down at the Ferry depot, all was confusion, great piles of trunks, satchels, boxes, etc., baggage masters, porter's hurrying here and there, draymen with handbills of checks, and unable to find the corresponding ones. Partially supplying our needs from a dry goods house, we attended Convention services Friday evening, and on Saturday morning went early to the depot to find our baggage. There we found others, like ourselves, searching anxiously. The situation was amusing and comical, yet one could not help thinking of what I have often read but never seen, —anxious hearts searching in the Morgue for the dead body of some lost one. Fortune favored us, and in about half an hour, we had found ours, and mine had never seemed so precious to me before. It was told us that one lady danced for joy around her trunk, another put her arms around hers, and one sang a song.

We were now ready to enjoy the Convention fully, and we hastened to the Pavilion, but we found the Auditorium so well filled, that only rear seats were vacant, and much of what was said was lost to us. The meeting however was an enthusiastic one, and many short, pithy speeches and reports from workers were given. We could not but feel what a great blessing the young people's work is to the churches, and our hearts were gladdened at the thought of our own K. C. and K. C. of C. E. societies.

On Saturday afternoon, no services

were held at the pavilions, and a band concert was given in honor of the C. E's at Golden Gate Park. Great crowds gathered to hear the music, and admire the beauty of the park. I shall not attempt to describe the flowers; they are such as grow only in the golden west. Before I went to California I thought we had a magnificent fuchsia plant,—now it looks like a poor little dwarf. The fuchsias there grow into trees, heliotropes grow much higher than the fences, and the geraniums and roses are simply magnificent. Golden Gate Park however does not show as much care and attention as some others we visited. Perhaps where nature does so much man becomes less pains taking.

Saturday evening again found us at the Pavilion at the California reception and rally, and there we learned something of what California's C. E's are doing. Dividing our time, we spent part of the evening at the Canadian reception, and heard the St. Lawrence praised beyond our Mississippi, the city of Montreal beyond our Chicago, their fertile valleys beyond our beautiful prairies, and their mountains beyond our glorious, snow-crested Rockies. We heard them sing

"God save our gracious Queen,  
Long live our noble Queen.

God save the Queen," as heartily as we sing

"My country, 'tis of thee,  
Sweet land of liberty.  
Of thee I sing."

We love our country because as Mr. Powell said, "It is our cradle; in its soil sleep our dead, it will be our grave. It is our home at large and comes to have all the personal meaning and significance of the smaller and more circumscribed home of the family." So, for the same reason, the Canadians love theirs, and it was pleasant to hear them give expression to their patriotic affections. The services ended, we went to our San Francisco home, glad to rest, and prepare our minds and hearts for the Sabbath services.

The best fruit does not grow wild. It needs the training and trimming and pruning and grafting of the gardener to bring forth the perfect fruit. So the most fruitful lives are those that often feel the correcting touch of the Father's hand.

The fruits of a Christian's life are to eternity. They never decay or perish, but abound more and more throughout the endless ages.

## King's Children.

### THE IDOLS WE ARE LIKELY TO WORSHIP.

Ex. 20:1-6. Luke. 12:13-21.

August 29.

As in worship "the letter killeth but the spirit giveth life," so in sinning it is not the act itself but the spirit of it that weighs in judgment. Therefore Jesus said, "He that looketh with lust is guilty. Therefore not bowing to an image of wood or gold alone is idolatry but also covetousness." Col. 3:5. "And many other such things." Gal. 5:18-24, of which many need to be told now "even weeping that they which do such things are enemies of the cross of Christ." Phil. 3:18. Thus to break the last or any of the commandments is to break also the first and the moral man, be ever so moral, and boast ever so much of his honesty and neighborliness yet breaks all the commandments in one because he refuses to love the Lord with all his heart and soul and mind and strength, this is the first and great commandment and the second is like unto it. Matt. 22:37. It is good to "prove your own selves," II Cor. 13:5, lest we fall by the same example of idolatry which is unbelief. Heb. 4:11.

Apply these two questions to each of the following common forms of idolatry.

1. Why is this idolatry?
2. How can we avoid it?

Give all the examples you can to illustrate it and test yourself if you are guilty of it by the following questions.

1. Do you think or plan or talk more about it than about Christ and the church?
2. Do you spend any time or money pandering to it which might be used in a better way?
3. Do you in any way neglect your Christian duty for it?

1. *Money.* I Tim. 6:3-10. For this Judas sold the Lord and Simon sought to buy the Holy Ghost, Acts 8:23, and the young man lost the kingdom, Matt. 19:22, and many more are doing just these things. How? By withholding God's portion, Mal. 3:8, 9; I Cor. 16:2, by not helping the needy, I John 3:17, by leaving it idle, Matt. 25:18, 27, by stinginess, II Cor. 9:6, 7. About the greatest sin of the church is right here. Jeremy Taylor says, "He never loved God who will quit anything of his religion for the sake of his money."

2. *Praise of men.* Matt. 6:1-6. Examples, Certian rulers, John 12:42, 43; Pilate, Mark 15:15. As you stand before the glass preparing for meeting ask yourself if you had not better be on your knees.

Consider Christ's example, John 8:29.

3. *Pride.* Examples, Nebuchadnezzar, Dan. 4:28-31; Naaman, II Kings 5. See also I Peter 3:3; Prov. 16:18; I John 2:16.

4. *Rank.* Esther 6:2-14, office seekers in church and politics.

5. *Appetite.* Phil. 3:18, spending for luxuries, tobacco and such things that should be used for the Kingdom.

6. *Society.* Examples, Rehoboam I Kings 12:8, 16, Orpah, Ruth 1:14, etc. Preferring parties to prayer meeting, allowing company to keep from church, etc., etc.

7. *Habit.* Rom. 1:28. Many will give up life eternal for the sake of some useless or even filthy and degrading habit.

See also Matt. 10:34-39; Matt. 5:29, 30.

The remedy for all this will be found in Gal. 2:20 and 5:16 and 6:14. The leader can add to this list and multiply illustrations and supply questions to draw out discussion. Each of the above 7 might be assigned to some one for a two minute talk.